Reviewer's report

Title: Mismatch repair and treatment resistance in ovarian cancer

Version: 1 Date: 11 April 2006

Reviewer: Trinidad Caldes Llopis

Reviewer's report:

General
In this paper the authors study the frequency of mismatch repair inactivation in ovarian cancer and its association with resistance to platinum-based chemotherapy. No MSI was detected in 75 ovarian carcinomma specimens and no association was seen between MMR inactivation and resistance to platinum in ovarian cancer.

The authors use two mononucleotide markers BAT25 and BAT26 and they didn’t found any tumor with MSI. This result can be explained because they use wrong locus for ovarian cancer, I suggest to use other panel of microsatellite locus in order to clarify their result. These microsatellites (BAT25 and BAT26) belong to the Bethesda panel for colorectal cancer.

The author should confirm the low methylation and the tumor with complete methylation by sequencig. In the other hand they need to explain better the relation between methylation and mRNA expression (numbers 1 and 0 in figure 3. B).

Why the authors didn’t use the expression of the MMR proteins by IHC?

Major Compulsory Revisions (that the author must respond to before a decision on publication can be reached)

Minor Essential Revisions (such as missing labels on figures, or the wrong use of a term, which the author can be trusted to correct)

Discretionary Revisions (which the author can choose to ignore)